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## Castillo de San Marcos and Fort Matanzas National Monuments News Release

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## War in the Swamps Torchlight Tour

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla.: In the year 1838 America is embroiled in a conflict known as the Second Seminole War. Though the Americans did not know it at the time the last major battle had been fought on Christmas day 1837, but conflict would continue intermittently until 1842, when many Seminole Indians were forced west. St. Augustine was not entirely safe during the war, with Seminole and Black raiders attacking small caravans and homesteads only a few miles from the town. The Castillo de San Marcos, renamed Fort Marion, again became a center of defense for the townspeople living in the area.

This war would spur on the eventual statehood of the Florida Territory and remains one of the longest conflicts in U.S. history. Join us on January 19<sup>th</sup> as we revisit these events from the eyes of a United States Army Sergeant inside Fort Marion. This will be a nighttime candle lit tour of the fort, lasting from 7:30 until 8:30 in the evening.

Tickets are available from the Fee booth and will be \$8 per adult ages 15 and up, \$4 per child aged 5 to 15 and children under 5 free, as space is limited. For questions, please call (904) 829-6506 ext. 233.

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